PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Prosperity at Home and Peace Abroad.

NO FINANCIAL LEGISLATION WANTED.

Civil Service, Polygamy and the Indian Policy Reviewed.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The President's Message, which will be laid before the two houses of Congress to-day, deals with all the Important questions likely to engage the attention of the national legislature. At the very outset of his Message the President congratulates Congress on the ssful execution of the resumption act, and states that the excess of the precious metals deposited or exchanged for United States notes over the amount of United States notes redeemed is about \$40,000,000. He then adverts to the revival of usiness and the marked improvement in the public From July 1 to November 15 the balance of trade in our favor was about \$59,000,000. Speaking of the sale of four per cent United States bonds he says they have been disposed of at States bonds he says they have been disposed of at or above par, sufficient in amount to pay off all the national debt which was redeemable under present laws. The amount of interest saved annually by the process of refunding the debt since March 1, 1877, is \$14,297,177. The amount of the national ich matures within less than two years is \$792,121,700, of which \$500,000,000 bear interest at he rate of 5 per cent, and the balance is in bonds bearing 6 per cent interest. It is believed that this part of the public debt can be refunded by the issue of 4 per cent bonds, and by the reduction of interest which will thus be effected, about \$11,000,000 can be annually saved to the Treasury. To secure this important reduction of interest to be paid by the United States further legislation is required, which, it is hoped, will be provided by Congress during its present session.

EQUALITY OF GOLD AND SILVER The coinage of gold by the mints of the United States during the last fiscal year was \$40,986,912. The coinage of silver dollars since the passage of the act for that purpose up to November 1, 1879, was \$45,000,850, or which \$12,700,344 have been ised from the Treasury and are now in circulation, and \$32,300,506 are still in the possession of the government. After stating these figures and refer. ring to the efforts of commercial nations of Europe to effect a permanent system for the equality of gold and silver in the recognized money of the world, the President recommends that Congress refrain says the great revival of trade, internal and foreign, will supply, during the coming year, awaited before attempting further experimental measures with the coinage. I would, however, strongly urge upon Congress the importance of authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to suspend the coinage of silver dollars upon the present legal ratio. The market value of the silver dollar being uniformly and largely less than the market value of the gold dollar, it is obviously impracticable to maintain them at par with each other if both are coined without limit. If the cheaper coin is forced into circulation it will, if coined without limit, soon become the sole standard of value, and of both gold and silver, which shall be of equiv alent value, dollar for dollar, with the universally recognized money of the world.

RETIREMENT OF GREENBACKS. The retirement from circulation of United States notes, with the capacity of legal tender in private contracts, is a step to be taken in our progress toward a safe and stable currency, which should be accepted as the policy and duty of the government and the interest and security of the people. It is my firm conviction that the issue of legal tender paper money, based wholly upon the authority and credit of the government, except in extreme emergency, is without warrant in the constitution and a violation of sound financial principles. The issue of United States notes during the late civil war, with the capacity of legal tender between private individuals. was not sufficient except as a means of rescuing the country from imminent peril. The circulation of these notes as paper money for any protracted period of time after the accomplishment of this purpose was not contemplated by the framers of the law under which they were issued. They anticipated the redemption and withdrawal of these notes at the earliest practicable period consistent with the attainment of the object for which they were provided. The policy of the United States, steadily adhered to from the adoption of the constitution, has been to avoid the creation of a national debt, and when, from necessity, in the time of war, debts have been created, they have been paid off on the return of peace as rapidly as possible. With this view and for this purpose it is recommended that the existing laws for the accumulation of a sinking fund sufficient to extinguish the public debt within a limited period be maintained. If any change of the objects or rates of taxation is deemed necessary by Congress, it is suggested that experisnce has shown that a duty can be placed on tea and coffee which will not enhance the price of those articles to the consumer and which will add several millions of dollars annually to the Treasury.

The admission of the Territory of Utah into the country from imminent peril. The circulation

millions of dollars annually to the Treasury.

UNAN AND POLYGAMY.

The admission of the Territory of Utah into the Union as a State is recommended, but the President says:—"This imperiant change will not be approved by the country while the citizens of Utah, in very considerable number, uphold a practice which is condemned as a crime by the laws of all civilized communities throughout the world." A stricter enforcement of the law prohibiting polygamy is commended to every department of the government, and if necessary to secure obedience he says:—"The enjoyment and exercise of the rights and privileges of citizenship in the Territories of the United States may be withheld or withdrawn from those who violate or oppose the enforcement of the law on this subject."

The light of supprace.

The elections of the past year, though occupied only with State offices, have not failed to elicit, in the political discussions which attended them all over the country, new and decisive evidence of the deep interest which the great body of citizens take in the progress of the country toward amore general and complete establishment, at whatever cost, of universal security and freedom in the exercise of the elective franchise. While many topics of political concern demand great attention from our people, both in the sphere of national and State authority, I. find no reason to qualify the opinion I expressed in my lest annual Message, that no temporary or administrative interests of government, however urgent or weighty, will ever display the zeal of our people in detence of the primary rights of citizenship, and that the power of public opinion will override all political prejudices and all sectional and State autachments, in demanding that all over our wide territory the name and character of citizen of the United States shall mean one and the same thing and carry with them unchallenged security and respect. I carnestly appeal to the intelligence and patriotism of all good citizens or every part of the country, however much they may be divided in opinions on other political subjects, to unite in compelling obedience to existing laws aimed at the protection of THE RIGHT OF SUPPRACE. all good citizens of every part of the country, how-ever much they may be divided in opinions on other political subjects, to unite in compelling obe-dience to existing laws aimed at the protection of the right of suffrage. I respectfully urge upon con-gress to supply any defects in these laws which ex-perience has shown and which it is within its power to remedy. I again invoke the co-operation of the executive and legislative authorities of the States in this great purpose. I am unity convinced that if the public mind can be set at rest on this paramount question of popular rights no serious object will thwart or delay the complete pacification of the country or retard the general diffusion of prospority.

REFORM IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The President transmits to Congress the report of the Civil service Commission. The report, he says, sets forth the history of the partisan spoils system in Great Britain and of the rise and rail of the parliamentary patronage, and of official interierence with the freedom of elections. It shows that, after long trials of various kinds of examinations, these which are competitive and epen on equal terms to sil, and which are carried on under the superintendence of a single commission, have, with great advantage, been established as conditions of admission to almost every official place in the subordinate administration of that country and of British India. As regards the civil service the Message contains nothing new, either in argument or in the recommendations to Congress. Competitive examinations, the President remarks, under many embarrassments, have been conducted, within limited spheres, in the executive departments in Washington and in a number of the custom houses and post offices of the principal cities of the country, with a view to further test their effects, and in every instance they have been round to be salutary. The economy, purity and efficiency of the public service would be greatly promoted by their systematic introduction, wherever practicable, REFORM IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

throughout the entire civil service of the government, together with ample provision for their general supervision, in order to secure consistency and uniform justice. Reports from the Secretary of the Interior, from the Postmaster General, from the Postmaster in the city of New York, where such examinations have been some time on trial, and also from the Collector of the Port, the Naval Officer and the Surveyor in that city and from the postmasters and collectors in several of the other large cities, show that the competitive system where applied has in various ways contributed to improve the public service. The reports show that the results have been salutary in a marked degree, and that the general application of similar ruise cannot fail to be of decided benefit to the service. The reports of the government officers in the city of New York especially bear decided testimony to the utility of open competitive examinations in their respective offices, showing that "these examinations and the excellent qualifications of those admitted to the service through them have had a marked incidental effect upon the persons previously in the service, and particularly upon those aspiring to promotion. There has been, on the part of these latter, an increased interest in the work and a desire to extend acquaintance with it beyond a particular desk, and thus the morale of the entire force has been raised. The examinations have been attended by many citizens, who have had an opportunity to thoroughly investigate the scope and character of the tests and the method of determining the results, and those visitors have without exception approved the modes employed, and several of them have publicly attested their favorable opinion upon such considerations."

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POLITICAL LEVIES FOR PARTY PURPOSES.

In closing his discussion of the civil service question the President declares that, in whatever aspect considered, the practice of making levies for party purposes upon the salaries or officers is highly demoralizing to the public service and discreditable to the country. Though an officer should be as free any other citizen to give his own money in aid of his opinions or his party he should also be as free as any other citizen to refuse to make such gifts. If salaries are but a fair compensation for the time and labor of the officers it is gross injustice to levy a tax upon them. If they are made excessive in order that they may bear the tax the excess is an indirect robbery of the public funds. He, therefore, recommends such a revision and extension of present statutes as shall secure to those in every grade of official life or public employment the protection with which a great and enlightened nation should guard those who are faithful in its service.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

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OUR FOREMON RELATIONS.

Relations with Austria, Russia, Italy, Portugal, Turkey and Belgium continue amicable and marked by no incident of especial importance. With the German Empire frequent questions arise in connection with the subject of naturalization and expatriation, but the imperial government has constantly manifested a desire to strictly maintain and comply with all treaty stipulations in regard to them. Some questions with Switzerland in regard to pauper and convict emigrans have arisen, but it is not doubted that they will be arranged upon a just and satisfactory basis. The questions of grave importance with Spain, growing out of the incidents of the Cuban insurrection, have been, for the most part, happily and honorably settled. The treaty recently made between Japan and the United States, in regard to the revision of former treaties, it is now believed will be followed by similar action on the part of other treaty Powers. The government of China has signified its willingness to consider the question of the emigration of its subjects to the United States with a dispassionate fairness, and to co-operate in such measures as may tend to prevent injurious consequences to the United States. The negotiations are still proceeding and will be pressed with diligence.

THE FORTUNE BAY MATTER.

The United States Minister in London has been instructed to present a demand for \$105,305 C2, in view of the damages received by American citizens at Fortune Bay on the 6th day of January, 1878. The subject has been taken into consideration by the British government and an early reply is auticipated. Upon the completion of the necessary preliminary examination the subject of our participation in the provincial fisheries, as regulated by treaty, will at once be brought to the atention of the Eritish government, with a view to an early and permanent settlement of the whole qu

Commissioners were appointed to represent the United States at the two international exhibitions in Australia, one of which is now in progress at Sydney and the other to be held next year at Melbourne. A desire has been expressed by our merchants and manufacturers interested in the important and growing trade with Australia that an increased provision should be made by Congress for the representation of our industries at the Melbourne Exhibition of next year, and the subject is respectfully submitted to your favorable consideration.

THE NEW PIRNOH CARLE.

The assent of the government has been given to the landing on the coast of Massachusetts or a new and independent transatiantic cable between France, by way of the French island of St. Pierre, and this country, subject to any future legislation of Congress on the subject. The conditions imposed, be established, are such as to secure its competition with any existing or future lines of marine cable and preclude analgamation therewith. To provide for entire equality of rights to our government and people with those of France in the use of the cable, and prevent any exclusive possession of the privilege as accorded by France to the disadvantage of any future cable communication between France and the United States which may be projected and accomplished by our citizons, an important reduction of the present rates of cable communication with Europe, felt to be too burdensome to the interests of our commerce, must necessarily flow from the establishment of this competing line.

THADE WITH MUAZIL.

Cordial relations continue with Brazil and the

or our commerce, make necessarily now from the establishment of this competing line.

Thade with quazil.

Cordial relations continue with Brazil and the Argentine Republic, and trade with those countries is improving. A provision for regular and more frequent mail communication in our own ships, between the ports of this country and the nations of South America, seems to me to deserve the attention of Congress as an essential precursor of an enlargement of our commerce with them and an extension of our carrying trade.

The Nicaragua Canal.

Diplomatic intercourse with Colombia is again fully restored by the arrival of a Minister from that country to the United States. This is especially fortunate, in view of the fact that the question of an interocessnic canal has recently assumed a new and important aspect and is now under discussion with the Central American countries, through whose territory the canal by the Nicarauga route would have to pass. It is trusted that enlightened statesmanship on their part will see that the early prosecution of such a work will largely intre to the benefit, not only of their own citizens and those of the United States, but of the commerce of the civilized world. It is not doubted that, should the work be undertaken under the protective auspices of the United States, and upon satisfactory concessions for the right of way and its security by the Central American governments, the capital for its completion would be readily furnished from this country and Europe which might, failing such guarantees, prove inaccessible.

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Through the judicious and energetic action of the military commanders of the two nations on each side of the Rio Grande, under the instructions of their respective governments, raids and depredations have greatly decreased, and in the localities where formerly most destructive have now almost wholly ceased. In view of this result the President entertains confident expectation that the continuance of the prevalence of quiet on the border will soon become so assured as to justify a modification of the present orders to our millitary commanders, as to crossing the border, without encouraging such disturbances as would endanger the peace of the two countries.

There is a gratifying increase of trade with nearly all European and American countries, and it is believed that, with judicious action in regard to its development, it can and will be still more enhanced, and that American products and manufactures will find new and expanding markets. The reports of diplomatic and consular officers upon this subject, under the system new adopted, have resulted in obtaining much valuable information, which has been and will continue to be laid before Congress and the public from time to time.

public from time to time.

PROVISION FOR ALASKA.

The President says that both the obligations of the treaty with Russia and the necessities of the people require that some organized form of government over the Territory of Aiaska be adopted. There appears to be no law for the arrest of persons charged with common law offences, such as assault, robbery and murder, and no magistrate authorized to issue or execute process in such cases. Serious difficulties have already arisen from offences of this character, not only among the original inhabitants, but among citizens of the United States and other countries who have engaged in mining, fishing and other business operations within the Territory. A bill authorizing the appointment of justices of the peace and constables, and the arrest and detention of persons charged with criminal offences and providing for an appeal to United States courts for the District of Oregon in suitable cases, will, at a proper time, be submitted to Congress.

Pay Of UNITED STATES MARSHALS.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury, already published, and of the Secretaries of War and

PAY OF UNITED STATES MARSHALS.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury, already published, and of the Secretaries of War and of the Navy and the Postmister General's report, are briefly summarized. In regard to the Department of Justice the President calls the attention of Congress to the fact that at the last season no appropriation whatever was made for the payment of the tees of marshals and their deputies, either in the service of process or for the discharge of other duties, and since June 30 these officers have continued the performance of their duties without compensation from the government, taking upon themselves the necessary incidental outlays as well as rendering their own services. In only a tow unavoidable instances has the proper execution of the process of the United States tailed by reason of the absence of the requisite appropriation. This course of official conduct on the part of these officers, highly creditable to their fidelity, was advised by the Attorney General, who informed them, however, that they would necessarily have to rely for their compensation upon the prospect of future legislation by Congress. He therefore specially recommends that immediate appropriation be made by Congress for this purpose. The act making the principal ap-

propriation for the Department of Justice at previous sessions has uniformly contained the following clause:—'And for defraying the expenses which may be incurred in the enforcement of the act approved February 28, 1870, entitled 'An act to amend an act approved May 30, 1870,' entitled 'An act to enforce the right of citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of the United States, and for other purposes, or any acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.'" No appropriation was made for this purpose for the current year. As no general election of members of Congress occurred, the omission was a matter of little practical importance. Such election will, however, take placeduring the ensuing year, and the appropriation made for the pay of marshals and deputies should be sufficient to embrace compensation for the services they may be required to perform at such election.

THE INDIAN QUESTION.

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After referring to the recent Indian outbreaks the President says that while these occurrences, in which a comparatively small number of Indians were engaged, are most deplorable, a wast majority of our ludian population have full justified the expectations of those who believed that by humane and peaceful induences the Indian can be led to abandon the habits of savage life and to develop a capacity for useful and civilized occupations. What they have already accomplished in the pursuit of agricultural and mechanical work, the remarkable success which has attended the experiment of employing as freighters a class of Indians hitherto counted among the wildest and most intractable, and the general and urgent desire expressed by them for the education of their children, may be taken as sufficient proof that they will be found capable of accomplishing much more if they continue to be wisely and fairiy guided. The Indian policy sketched in the report of the Secretary of the Interior—the object of which is to make liberal provision for the education of Indian youth, to settle the Indians upon farmloss in severalty; to give them title in fee to their farms, inalicanable for a certain number of years, and when their wants are thus provided for to dispose by sale of the lands on their reservations not occupied and used by them, a fund to be formed out of the proceeds for the bonefit of the Indians, which will gradually relieve the government of the expenses new provided for by annual appropriations—must commend itself as just and beneficial to the Indians, and as also calculated to remove those obstructions which the existence of large reservations presents to the settlement and development of the country. He therefore carnestly recommended the enactment of a law and an appropriations, to the

THE GRANT BOOM.

CONGRESSMAN AIKEN, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, DENIES THAT IT HAS ANY STRENGTH IN HIS STATE-A SOUTHERN VICE PRESIDENT UNDE-SIRABLE.

Congressman Aiken, of South Carolina, arrived in this city on Saturday evening from a session of the grangers, held during the past week at Canandaigua, in this State, and is at present stopping at the Astor House. His son, a youth of eighteen, accompanies him. Yesterday morning they went to hear Dr. Talmage preach, and spent the afternoon in riding on the "L" roads and a visit to Central Park. Last night a HERALD reporter called upon Mr. Aiken to learn his views as to the extent of the Southern "boom" for Grant in South Carolina. He said it was two weeks since he left South Carolina and he thought his ideas upon direct questions were a little old, but he was sure of the attitude of his State toward Grant. "As for the Southern 'boom' for Grant for President and Wade Hampton for Vice President," the Congressman said, "I don't believe it has reached the clarming proportions credited to it. The idea of such a ticket is nonsensical in the highest degree to Southern man. If there is any man in my State that would support General Grant I have yet to know him."

"Does this feeling arise from his part in the supdon't believe that Grant is any worse a man than many others. It is his associates that the Southern people dislike and that did us so much harm during

"But would not Grant do better now that the Southern States have showed for four years that they know how to rule themselves?"

"What can we expect of the man that said once, Let us have peace, and then followed that harmonious expression by sending troops down into our State to rule us with their bayonets. As for the latter part of the ticket I will say that I don't believe that Southerners wish to see a man from their section on the Presidential ticket, and if they did I would dread the results of the accomplishment of such a desire."

"Why so? Do you anticipate any trouble to arise from that desire?"

"Simply that it would ruin the entire country.

"Why see Do you anticipate any trouble to arise from that desire?"

"Simply that it would ruin the entire country. My knowledge of the Northern people is that they would rather reduce the whole number of States under bayonet rule than allow a Southern man to get a place on the ticket as Vice President. Such men as Garfield showed the liberality of thought and feeling now existing toward Southerners in the North. He is one of the leaders among the Northern people, and just such speeches as he made at Toledo tend to increase sectional feeling between the North and South. I believe that the talk about the choice of Waie Hampton as a candidate for Vice-President is all buncombe."

"How would Tilden be supported?" "How would Tilden be supported?"
"There would be very little enthusiasm for Tilden, and I have not heard a prominent man in my State advocate his nomination. If he be the choice of the democracy he need not expect very warm support in my State. The Southern people believe him to have been elected President once, but he did not claim the office. Anyway, Southerners don't like martyrs, as they have been martyred themselves for many years, and don't like the position any toewell."

many years, and don't like the position any too well."

"If General Hancock were the candidate of the democracy, how would be be treated by the South?"

"I believe Hancock would arouse enthusiasm in the South, but he could not gain the Northern vote. The South will support any candidate that is put forward by the Democratic Convention; but what South Carolina desires is good, honest State government. The trouble just at present between the North and the South is that there is too much sectional feeling. This has to be dispelled before the South will be fairly treated by the North. There is too much lauding of the soldier among the people and too little warmth expressed in his advocacy when he comes up for office. We do differently down South. We believe our brave soldiers did the fighting and we believe they ought to have the offices."

NEW CONGRESSMEN

[From the Washington correspondence of the Baltimore Sun, Nov. 29.]
In the Senate on Monday next the only new me ber to be sworn in will be ex-Governor Baldwin, of Michigan, in place of the late Zach. Chandler.

Congressmen are to be sworn in on Monday next, namely—Horace Davis, Horace F. Page, Romauldo Pacheco, republicans; and Campbell P. Berry (demo crat), of California; Waldo P. Hutchins (demot New York, vice Smith (republican) or New York, vice Smith (republican), deceased, of New York, vice Smith (republican), deceased, W.G. Thompson (republican), of Iowa, vice Clark (republican), deceased. This will make a full house of 293 members, of whom the democrats have 150, the republicans 131, greenbackers 11, independent democrat (Dr. Felton) I. This gives the democrats a majority of seven over all.

OLEOMARGERINE

A meeting of the merchants engaged in the butter and cheese trade was held on Saturday last at the American Exchange in reference to the fraudulent sale of oleomargerine, when resolutions were adopted to the effect that it has become an established fact that wholesale and retail grocery houses in this city and Brooklyn sell oleomargerine in violation of the law requiring it to be plainly marked, and that therefore the exchange authorize the committee already appointed to take immediate action to investigate and prosecute all offenders in this directions. LITERATURE

Uhlhorn's Conflict Between Christianity and Paganism.

SOME RECENT NOVELS.

Poetry, Sports, Prints, Acting and Oratory-Book Notes.

CHRISTIANITY'S CONFLICT WITH HEATHENISM Dr. Gerhard Uhlhorn, a German Protestan world include the rather solecistic one of Abbot o Loccum-a traditional and legal one, howeverwell as member of the Supreme Consistory in Han-over, has written a work on "The Conflict of Chrislish a good translation, done by E. C. Smith and C. J. H. Ropes. The author intends his book to be a two-edged sword, cutting at old paganism with one edge and modern scepticism with the other. It is a history of the struggles of the early Church in the Roman Empire, viewed in one respect from the stand point of those conclusions which are distinctly Protestant. Aside from the disputed point as to the in ternal government of the early Church, on which so much is supposed to hang, it is catholic enough in tone and treatment to be accepted by Christians at large as a clear, able and graphic picture of the war Roman paganism—a war in which the victims were uniformly on the side of the victors. His opening chapter on the religious condition o the heathen world, if not so elaborate in its details as that chapter in the recent more voluminous work of the Jesuit, Father Thébaud, entitled "The Gen tile World Confronting the Infant Church." sum marizes the position very clearly. Perhaps the learned author strains for an spigram when he says "An abstract monotheism hovered more or less distinctly over polytheism." The sneers of certain writers in Rome at the existing religion are small material out of which to make a monotheistic phan tom. It was certainly very indistinct. To the con flict in Rome itself, however, Dr. Uhlhorn speak of the world had to be fought; but the growth of Christianity in the widely separated provinces was, after all, the greatest factor in determining the vic tory. The fortress had to capitulate when the in vestment was complete. The perfect simplicity of the new faith, its emphatic teaching in the name and by the example of Christ, was eagerly grasped by the unsophisticated—that is, we may say is plainly, the ignorant—who now saw, as our author keenly says, that "the heathen deities were neither the authors of the moral law nor its ex emplars." The varying degrees of gravity of the persecutions from Nero to Diocletian are cleary indicated, the overdrawn pictures of mediaval and modern commentators being through out avoided. The Neronian persecution he describe with the best modern writers, as a purely isolate outburst of politic rage, but he shows that so long a Christianity was illegal the strict execution of the law was never possible, even when pious pagans like Pliny the younger anxiously sought its exact meaning, or warlike emperors like Decius, laying al ualms aside, ordered its bloodiest fulfilment. It is the history of penal legislation in matters of faith without exception. The author inclines fondly toward a belief in Constantine's vision of the conquering cross, though he prudentially enjoins cau Testament. Here we are brought to the author standpoint again. We can only see plainly that he would accept no modern miracles-Lourdes mira cles, for instance-on any such evidence as make him look fondly at the cross in the heavens. But he makes his strongest controversial point in setting up the attacks of Celsus on Christianity in the second century side by side with the destructive crit icism of Renan and Strauss in the nineteenth. As completely answered Celsus, he leaves it to infer that all antagonists of Christianity to-day will be to inference. The example of the martyrs is out worn as a weapon against modern scepticism, which readily admits their singleness and purity of purpose, and only asks, What then?

THE SECOND ADVENT. have been deduced from the writings of Emmanuel Swedenborg, has just published, through J. B. Lip-pincott & Co., a volume entitled "The Second Com-ing of Our Lord." The book consists of twelve lectures, all of which the author has frequently de livered, and they are as different as can be imagine from the ignorant assumptions and declarations of the more material class of Adventists. The prophe cies of Scripture and the visions of Swedenborg are the theories advanced will appear fanciful to those who have studied only the biblical allusions to the general resurrection, their tone and direction is such that the author finally seems to meet all Chris tians upon common ground, and to offer them much cause for spiritual edification.

Son London), is written by a man who was trans ported for seven years for a crime committed under the influence of drink. Its aim is to show how rotten the boasted English prison system has be book shows that he was a man of education, for it is a fair piece of literary work. He does not make any attempt to excuse his crime and he asks no pity. That he should have been punished for breaking a law he considers perfectly just, but he does find fault with a system which throws prisoners of his class with the professional convict. Men, he says who "are so vile and so filthy that no reformatory system under God's sun would have the slightest chance of inspiring their cursed natures He finds that the "green" prisoner is punished for the slightest intringement of the law, while the "old birds," who play into the keepers' hands, are allowed to go unpunished. So he loses all respect for the authority over him, and learns to be as tricky, and in the end as corrupt, as the most hard ened criminal. This writer gives as an example of the prison rules a painful experience of his To kill time he learned by heart a number of poem from the few books in the library. To facilitate the process of memorizing he wrote some of the lines with a bit of lead on a piece of brown paper. One warder who knew that he was doing this dreadful deed winked at it, but another, a man who was held in bad repute by the officials, wishing to appear ex tremely active in the discharge of his duty, searche this prisoner's cell, and there found the offending paper, and carried it in great glee to the governor tion; he had been seven years in servitude, and had never been given a black mark; but for this helmons crime—writing a few lines of poetry on a bit of pa-per—he was put on a three days' bread-and-water diet and detained in prison seven months over his time. In giving examples of bad treatment and corrupt officials this convict does not spare names Villiam Ronpell, the forger, formerly M. P. fo Lambeth, was one of his associates, and he says that that prisoner had a remarkably easy time of it. The ples for prison reform in this book is strongly

"COUSIN HENRY."

Anthony Trollope's latest story, "Cousin Henry" (Harper & Brothers), would not have made half its length in the hands of any other novelist. But Mr. Trollope is a great waterer, and it is no task for him to make three volumes out of what is no more than enough for one. The plot of "Cousin Henry" is as old as the hills. The heroine, Isabel Broderick, lived with her uncle, Indefer Jones, a rich bachelor, on a large estate in the country. Uncle Indefer's only male relative was his nephew, Henry Jones,

whom he hated as only rich old uncles can hate old gentleman, however, loved Isabel, but thought it his duty to pocket his hate and leave the property to Henry, a pro-coading unprecedented out of the pages of a novel. Isabel, his favorite, he intended to leave nothing, but to provide for her wants he planned a match between her and Cousin Henry. Isabel was a young lady with a mind of her own, and she turned a deaf ear to Cousin Henry's suit. Uncle Indefer was taken ill, and at the last moment he changed his mind about the property and made will leaving everything to Isabel. Then he turned his face to the wall and died. Isabel, who was off on a visit, got back in time to hear her uncle say that he had made it all right. When it was time to read the will only the first copy could be found, and that left everything to Cousin Henry. It was darkly hinted that this young man had destroyed document No. 2, but he de nied knowing anything about the matter. He had not destroyed the second will, but he knew where it was. He saw his uncle put it in a volume of sernons and he put the volume on the bookshelf in the library. When the lawyers searched the house they of course did not think of the books. Abjohn, a Welsh lawyer, and the best character in the book. suspected Cousin Henry and watched him closely The wrongful heir was a great coward, and spent most of his time in the library with his eyes riveted on the precious volume. At the proper mo ment Abjohn collared Cousin Henry, and father waved the book before his eyes. He owned up and they let him off easy. Isabel married the man of her choice, who changed his name to Jones, to share Uncle Indefer's property.

"VIVIAN THE BEAUTY." "Vivian the Beauty," a new story, by Mrs. Annie Edwards, just issued in Appleton's Handy Volume principal figure is a slapdash caricature of the "pro-fessional beauty" of the present day. Among the other characters Mrs. Edwards' admirers will recognize old triends, notwithstanding the thin vei which change of scenery, costumes and name throws over them. The readers of "A Vagabone Heroine" will not fail to renew acquaintance with lish maiden brought up by her aunt in gloomy old Schloss Egmond, in the Black Forest, and who grows up in love with the young Count whom she remembers only as a boy ere he disgraced his family by Herr Wolfgang, an unknown youth, who turns up in the Black Forest and is engaged as tutor to the lonely little maiden and wins her love "for himself alone." is seen by the reader to be the lost Count long before he makes himself known as such to his ed and the world. It is the story of Cinder ells over again, the matrimonial prize being carried off by the despised heroine from the clutches of Vivian Vivosh, the "beauty" who comes to the Schloss to marry the Count, but whom she snubs unwittingly in the person of the despised tutor. Whatever be the faults of the story, and they are many, dulness is not among them, and the book will give full satisfaction to the admirers of its author's style.

"THE SERPENT CHARMER" Boys in search of the adventurous will find all their hearts can desire in "The Serpent Charmer," translated from the French of Louis Rousselet by

Mary de Hautville. (Charles Scribner's Sons.) The scene of the story is laid during the time of the Indian mutiny, and the hero is an old serpent charmer by the name of Mali. He is befriended by the son of a French planter living on the banks of the Ganges, and when the father is killed he takes the boy under his protection. The young French-man is cressed like a Hindoo and learns to charm serpents so that the terrible cobra is a plaything in his hands. A boy with performing monkeys joins their party, and together they roam through India, The adventures of such a trio could not fail to be thrilling, and M. Rousselet has made the most of

"SPORT IN MANY LANDS."

natural withal

them. His style is graphic in the extreme and very

Major Henry Ashbury Leveson, better known as "The Old Shekarry," was a soldier as well as a sportsman, and fought in many wars and many countries. Hunting was his passion, and when there were no battles to fight he would shoulder his rifle and start off in pursuit of sport. The wound which caused his death was received in the Abyssinian war. Major Leveson has a graphic manne of describing his adventures, and he tells the most nishing stories without any attempt at selfglorification. In his last book, "Sport In Many Lands" (Scribner & Welford), "The Old Shekarry" takes us into African forest, over Scotch hills through Indian jungles and across North American abounds with the vitality of the man, and there is a rush and rattle about it that fill the reader with

This pretty volume of smooth and sweet poetry by Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge, published by C. Scrib ner's Sons, has the merit of an expressive title. It is a collection of fugitive verses, mostly gathered from magazines to which the skilful editor or St. Nicholas has contributed them during the last few years. A great part are written on themes sug gested by incidents of childhood, but all are ad iressed to adult taste. We find no stanzas among them likely to become familiar quotations, but many that give quiet pleasure by refinement of magery and purity of tone, and some that well deserve to be set to music. Mrs. Dodge possesses abundance of humor-possibly inherite delicate vein of it runs through much of the poetry in this little book and will help to make it a cheer ful Christmas gift in many a household, while her and there occurs a piece, like the introductory verse entitled "In the Canyon," which displays an uncom mon power of perception and description of natural scenery in its relation to human sentiment.

Mr. J. E. Frobisher, the teacher of elecution, has added to his published works one bearing the above title (College of Oratory and Acting) which contain some useful introductory chapters on elecution and gesture, passes on to a conglomerate of extracts from various works and authorities arranged not too systematically. The author or compiler indeed seems conscious of this, for in his preface he considers "the present effort as rather celectic in its character," which is rather a lame way of accounting for what he terms "its sometimes apparently contradictory opinions and illogical arrangement." He has, in fact, emptied his scrap books into it with little heed to that artistic effect which he so often pleads should be strenuously attempted by others. As a result we have a choppy, unsatisfactory book. Here is abundance of secondhand material, and most of it good of its kind, but so tossed hither and thither as to try the patience severely in the attempt to gain a concrete idea of what the author desires to inculcate on any particular point. This age is in literature above all one of systematiz tion, collation and arrangement; it is as profoundly synthetic as analytic, and a book of this kind is unworthy of it. A patient editor might make some thing of its materials, which we do not wish to underrate, but we cannot in frankness commend the ill digested divisions which here confront and conuse us. In lapses of grammar and the types it bears evidence of haste. To the former we need not call special attention, but we would instance a glaring error, perhaps originally one of the types, but none the less so vitally misleading as to demand instant correction. Delaarte's definition of art is in form. Its seme is the motion subjected to the deepest scrutiny of thought and fixed in the noblest form." This nonsense may be corrected by reading "emotion" for "motion."

As a companion volume to Lubke's "History of Painting" Dodd, Mead & Co. have published a handsome edition of Maberly's "Print Collector," which has been for some time classed among "rare books." The value of Maberly's volume is well known to all interested in art matters. Mr. R. Hoe, Jr., an amateur collector and one of the directors of the Metro-politan Museum of Art, has edited this first American edition and brought it down to date. It is with the utmost interest and delight that we follow the

expert Maberly through the ins and outs of the ector's art. With what rare grace and de lightful affection he treats of old prints. How eloquent over the engraver's chisel and the etcher's needle! We stop to read Mr. Hoe's copious notes, full of information until we come to the department of "Contemporary Etching and Engraving," where he partment by lamenting the craving of the people tor sensationalism in art. He deplores the lands. Yet out of this very disruption of time hop ered systems have arisen new forms of art whose m-Rousseau, Daubigny and Corot, he says, did not find it necessary "to draw inspiration from the ends of the earth." The art of etching, he tells us, has no rival in the rapidity with which the transmitted to the copper, and in the boldness as well as delicacy of execution of which it is susceptible." Mr. Hoe thinks that the American mind is especially adapted to the expression of art in this form. Under the head of "American Etchers" only two names are mentioned—Whistier and Henry Farrar. Those gentlemen are probably the best known, though some admirable work has been done by Mr. Peter Moran and Mr. Stephen J. Ferris with the etchers' needle. Although there are other book written on the subject of print collecting Mabe ly's has long been the favorite, particularly with directly appeals. The publishers have spared pains to make this an edition worthy of the subjeand it abounds in excellent fac-simile illustrati from muster etchers and engravers.

LITERARY CHIT CHAT. Edmund Yates was one of Dickens' pets. Herbert Spencer is one of the favorite authors

Tennyson has written two poems for St. Nicholas

which will be published in January.

Mr. E. C. Stedman says that English girls dress
better than they did five years ago.

Mrs. Bayard Taylor's translations have made her

husband's works known to Germany "Isms of Forty Years Ago" is the title of a paper which will appear in the January Harper's.

A new novellette by Mrs. Burnett, called "Louisi-

It is maliciously said that Victor Hugo never reads but always praises the books and manuscripts that A new paper is announced in Paris with the title of

Gil Blus. It is to be in the style of the Figure, with

a slightly republican tinge. The Figare is just now "The Pledge and the Cross," written by Mrs. S. M. I. Henry, and published by the National Temperane Society, is a simple but often affecting narrative of

temperance efforts from the religious standpoint. "Constance Winter's Choice" (Loring) is an inter esting story of a young girl who embraced the theatrical profession. She played the same line of parts as Mary Anderson—i. c., Juliet, Evadue, Meg Mer-

Speaking of Edmund W. Gosse's new volume of poetry, the Athenaum, which in general praises it highly, remarks:—"It is strange that sweetness of temper seems to be, of all the postic moods, the most difficult to work in." "St. Maar: an Earl's Wooing," is the title of a

sensational novel by John Carroll, of "The Caves," Bultimore county, Md. The scene is laid in England. There is a fire and the hero rescues the heroine, and T. B. Peterson & Brothers are the pub-

Dr. Moritz Busch, whose "Bismarck and Bis Man" attracted about a year ago a great deal of attention, has published "New Diary Leaves," which, it appears, is mostly devoted to describing Dr. Busch himself, the "Iron Chancellor" being a mere "supe" in the story.

"Church Hymns, with Tunes," edited by Mr. Arthur Sullivan, is one of the valuable books issued by the London Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (Pott, Young & Co., New York). It is arranged on the simplest and most compact plan devisable, and gives, except in the children's hymns, a harmonized version of each tune. It has reached the one hundred and fifth thousand of copies sold in Great Britain and America.

"The Street Singer," a poem by A Musician (Hel mick, Cincinnati), is a dramatic little story, illustrating the dangers of adopting street waifs into famiadopted daughter. He is struck blind by lightning near Jerusalem, she forsakes him and both are reprobably lies in the fact that the husband is a positivist, like Mr. Bob Ingersoll.

"Tales of Old Thule" (Lippincott & Co.), collected Norse stamp and have been circulating in Scotland, in whose dialect they are told. Such books tell of the coming of Christmastide, and their alarmingly grotesque or super-ornate illustrations indicate the youthful fancies they are expected to fire.

In "Shaker Sermons" Bishop H. L. Eads, of South Union, Ky., presents the body of Shaker theology. The doctrines of self-denial, celibacy and chastity, which the Bishop seems to think the "goodly Ann Lee" discovered as bases of the Christ-life, and and fully, while attention is paid to the utterance

The work is issued by the New York community.

"Around the Yule Log" (Dodd, Mead & Co.) proclaims its devotion to boys and to Christmas on its cover, gorgeous in gold, crimson, green, yellow, blue and orange. Mr. Richard Markham has therein told the story of five boys and five girls on a Christmas visit to the seaside in such a way as to bring into his narrative a number of the nost striking things in American history up to revolutionary times. Indians, sea rangers and patriots mingle bewilderingly in its plentiful illustrations, while the text, including some old ballads, is calculated to fire the young American heart.

A really fine book for the young who have outgrown more literary syllabub is "The Boys" Froissart' " (Scribner's Sons), being selections from the chivalrous chronicles of Jean Froissart, "edited for boys, with an introduction by the poet, Sidney Lanier. The selections from the chronicles are of the stirring kind, and will please young readers immensely, but we would recommend to them the preface as particularly worthy of careful space more insight into the relations to each other of certain chroniclers and romancers of the Middle Ages than many a pretentious essay on the subject.

The book is handsomely illustra NEW BOOKS RECEIVED. Miscellanies. By John Dean Caton, LLD. Houghton, Osgood & Co., publishers, Boston. Bennatic Persons and Moods, with Other New Posma. By Mrs. S. M. B. Piatt. Houghton, Osgood & Co., pub-lishers. Dramatio Porsons and Moods, with Other New Poems, By Mrs. S. M. B. Piatt. Houghton, Osgood & Co., publishers.

Her Lover's Friend, and Other Poems. By Nors Perry. Houghton, Osgood & Co., publishers.

Three Brown Boys and Other Happy Children. By Ellon Haile. Cassell, Petter & Galpin, publishers, New York.

In Berkshire with the Wild Flowers. By Klaine and Dors Read Goodsie, Lilustrated by W. Hamilton Gibson. G. P. Putnam's Sons, publishers, New York.

The Decond Coming of the Lord; Its Cause, Signs and Effects. By Rev. Chauncey Glies. J. B. Lippincott & Co., publishers, Philadelphia.

The Dictionary of Commarce and Manufacture. Brought down to the year 1871. By L. De Colange, L.L.D. Complete in one welms. Posithed in twenty-five numbers. Hustrand. Edited Privates, Children Stellen, Maidons Radjetous Kxiles, Political Rebels, Serving Men Sould for a Torm of Years, Apprentices, Children Stellen, Maidons Pressed and Others Web Went From Great Britain to the American Plantations. 1830-1700. With their ages, &c. From MSS. Preserved in the State Paper Department of Her Majosty's Public Record Office, England. Edited by John Camen Hotten. J. W. Bouton, publisher, New York.

Along the Way. By Mary Mapes Dodge. Charles Scribner's Sons, publishers. New York.

The Serpent Charmer. By Louis Bousselet. Translated from the Frome by Mary De Hauteville. Charles Scribner's Sons, publishers.

The Conflict of Christianity with Heathenism. By Dr. Gerhard Unihern. Charies Scribner's Sons, publishers.

From Rehind the Bara. A series of letters written in prison. By D. M. Rennett. D. M. Bennett, publisher, New York.

Labor Making Machinery. An essay. By Fred Perry Powers. G. P. Putnam's Sons, publishers. And Powers. And Powers. By D. M. Bennett. D. M. Bennett, publishers. Deducts and Powers. And Powers. By D. M. Bennett. D. M. Bennett, publishers. Deducts and Powers. By D. M. Bennett. D. M. Bennett, publishers. Deducts and Powers. By D. M. Bennett. D. M. Bennett, publishers. Deducts and Powers. By D. M. Bennett. D. M. Bennett, publis

Alters.
Gaspard de Coligny (Marquis de Chatillon). By Walter esant. G. P. Putnam's Sons, publishors.
Peems by Henry Abbey. D. Appleton & Co., publishers. Besaut. G. P. Putnam's Sons, publishers.
Postus by Henry Abbey. D. Appleton & Co., publishers,
New York.
The Truth: A Companion to the Bible. By Charles J.
Guiteau. D. Lathrop & Co., publishers, Boston.
Some Mistakes of Mosco. By Robert G. Ingersoll. C. P.
Farrell, publisher, Washington.
A Lady's Lite in the Rocky Mountains. By Isabells L.
Butter of the Rocky Mountains. By Isabells L.
Fork.